

September 14, 2010  
Regular Council Meeting  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

A Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, Virginia.

PRESENT:                   Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Mayor  
                                  K. Wayne Walton, Vice Mayor  
                                  Curtis W. Harris, Councilor  
                                  Michael C. Bujakowski, Councilor  
                                  Gerald S. Stokes, Councilor  
                                  Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor  
                                  Jackie M. Shornak, Councilor  
  
                                  Edwin C. Daley, City Manager  
                                  Thomas E. Lacheney, City Attorney  
                                  Ann M. Romano, City Clerk

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion** was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to convene into Closed Session to discuss the following: as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3), a matter involving the potential acquisition of real property for public purposes, and the disposition of publicly held real property because discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect our bargaining position, and, as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(7), consultation with legal counsel, about: the pending cases of Hopewell v. Beacon Theatre, James Jones Builder v. Hopewell, and the rate increase request of Virginia American Water Company. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	ABSENT (arrived at 6:33 p.m.)
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**OPEN SESSION**

At 7:30 PM Council convened into Open Session. Councilors responded to the question: "Were the only matters discussed in the Closed Meeting public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements; and public business matters identified in the motion to convene into Closed Session?" Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Luman-Bailey opened the regular meeting at 7:30 PM. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Luman-Bailey	-	yes
Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes

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Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes

Prayer was offered by Herbert Bragg, PIO/PAC, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion** was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to approve the Consent Agenda: Minutes: - Regular meeting August 10, 2010, Work Session August 24, 2010; Pending List; Information for Council Review: Recreation Comm. minutes 6/9/10 & agenda 8/11/10; School Board agenda 8/12/10, minutes 7/1/10, 7/15/10, 7/28-29/10; HRHA agenda 8/9/10 & minutes 5/10/10; BAR agenda 8/23/10; School Board agenda 9/9/10; and 2010 Statement of Assessed Values for Local Tax Purposes for Railroads and Interstate Pipeline Transmission Companies; Personnel Change Report & Financial Report; Public Hearings Announcements: None. Routine Approval of Work Sessions: September 28, 2010; Ordinances on second and final reading: Ord. #2010-20 – Amending Hopewell City Code Chapter 11, Building Regulations, Article 1, In General; Ord. #2010-21-Charter Changes – May to November; Routine Grant Approval: None; Proclamations/Resolutions/Presentations: Employee of the Quarter. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Luman-Bailey and Police Chief Steve Martin presented the Employee of the Quarter Award to Kim Parson, Administrative Services Manager, who was nominated by her co-workers.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-20**

An Ordinance amending Hopewell City Code Chapter 11, Building Regulations, Article 1, In General.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOPEWELL, that the following provisions of Hopewell City Code Chapter 11, Building Regulations, Article 1, In General, be amended as follows:

**Chapter 11 BUILDING REGULATIONS**

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 11-1. Fire limits.**

The fire limits of the city shall include and extend to all of the territory embraced in the main business district as shown on the zoning map of the city, as amended from time to time. Such map shall be on file in the office of the city engineer.

**Sec. 11-2. Smoke detectors.**

(a) Approved type smoke detectors shall be installed in all of the following structures or buildings constructed within the city prior to the adoption of the Uniform Statewide Building Code:

(1) Any multifamily building containing four (4) or more dwelling units.

(2) Any hotel or motel regularly used, offered for, or intended to be used to provide overnight sleeping accommodations for one or more persons.

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- (3) Rooming houses regularly used, offered for, or intended to be used to provide overnight sleeping accommodations and which contain more than four (4) units.
- (b) Smoke detectors installed pursuant to this section shall be installed in conformance with the provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code. The type of smoke detector may be either battery operated or AC powered units.
- (c) With respect to multifamily buildings containing four (4) or more dwelling units, the owner of each such unit which is rented or leased, at the beginning of each tenancy and at least annually thereafter, shall furnish the tenant and the Fire Marshall, Hopewell Bureau of Fire, with a certificate that all required smoke detectors are present, have been inspected, and are in good working order.
- (d) Smoke detectors located in multifamily buildings containing four (4) or more dwelling units and not located in hallways, stairwells, and other public or common areas, shall be tested on an interim basis and maintained by the tenant; provided, however, that the owner shall be obligated to install new batteries in battery operated units at the beginning of each tenancy, and shall be obligated to service, repair, or replace any malfunctioning smoke detectors within five (5) days of receipt of written notice that such smoke detector is in need of service, repair, or replacement. All other smoke detectors required pursuant hereto shall be tested, repaired, and maintained in working order by the owner of the structure or building. The owner shall maintain a written record of tests and repairs.
- (e) Appropriate permits must be secured for the installation of smoke detectors powered by alternating current.
- (f) This article shall be administered and enforced by the Fire Marshall, Hopewell Bureau of Fire.
- (g) Any person who violates any provisions of this article shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

**Sec. 11-3. Unsafe structures.**

- (a) Correction by owner. The owners of property within the City of Hopewell shall, at such time or times as the building official may prescribe, remove or repair any building, wall, or other structure which might endanger the public health or safety of other residents of the City of Hopewell.
- (b) Correction by city. The building official may remove any building, wall, or any other structure which might endanger the public health or safety of other residents of the city wherein the owner of such property after reasonable notice and after reasonable time to do so has failed to remove or repair said building, wall, or other structure.
- (c) The building official may remove, repair or secure any building, wall or any other structure that might endanger the public health or safety of other residents of the city, if the owner and lienholder of such property, after reasonable notice and a reasonable time to do so, has failed to remove, repair, or secure the building, wall or other structure. For purposes of this section, repair may include maintenance work to the exterior of a building to prevent deterioration of the building or adjacent buildings. For purposes of this section, reasonable notice includes a written notice (i) mailed by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, sent to the last known address of the property owner and (ii) published once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the city. No action shall be taken by the city to remove, repair, or secure any building, wall, or other structure for at least 30 days following the later of the return of the receipt or newspaper publication, except that the city may take action to prevent unauthorized access to the building within seven days of such notice if the structure is deemed to pose a significant threat to

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public safety and such fact is stated in the notice;

(d) Costs of correction by city to be charged to owner, become lien against property. In the event that the building official removes any building, wall, or any other structure after complying with the notice provisions of this section, the costs or expenses thereof shall be chargeable to and paid by the owner of such property and may be collected by the city as taxes and levies are collected. Every charge authorized by this section with which the owner of any such property shall have been assessed and which remains unpaid shall constitute a lien against such property.

(e) The City may waive such liens in order to facilitate the sale of the property. Such liens may be waived only as to a purchaser who is unrelated by blood or marriage to the owner and who has no business association with the owner. All such liens shall remain a personal obligation of the owner of the property at the time the liens were imposed.

(f) The building official may assess a civil penalty, not to exceed a total of \$1,000 for violations of this section.

**Sec. 11-4. Illegal Drugs.**

(a) Definitions:

"Affidavit" means the affidavit prepared by the city in accordance with subdivision (b) (1) hereof.

"Controlled substance" means illegally obtained controlled substances or marijuana, as defined in Va. Code § 54.1-3401.

"Corrective action" means the taking of steps which are reasonably expected to be effective to abate drug blight on real property, such as removal, repair or securing of any building, wall or other structure.

"Drug blight" means a condition existing on real property which tends to endanger the public health or safety of residents of the city and is caused by the regular presence on the property of persons under the influence of controlled substances or the regular use of the property for the purpose of illegally possessing, manufacturing or distributing controlled substances.

"Owner" means the record owner of real property.

"Property" means real property.

(b) The City Manager, or his designee, may undertake corrective action with respect to drug blighted property in accordance with the procedures described herein:

(1) The City Manager or his designee shall execute an affidavit, citing this section, to the effect that (i) drug blight exists on the property and in the manner described therein; (ii) the city has used diligence without effect to abate the drug blight; and (iii) the drug blight constitutes a present threat to the public's health, safety or welfare.

(2) The city shall then send a notice to the owner of the property, to be sent by regular mail to the last address listed for the owner on the city's assessment records for the property, together with a copy of such affidavit, advising that (i) the owner has up to thirty days from the date thereof to undertake corrective action to abate the drug blight described in such affidavit and (ii) the city will, if requested to do

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so, assist the owner in determining and coordinating the appropriate corrective action to abate the drug blight described in such affidavit.

(3) If no corrective action is undertaken during such thirty-day period, the city shall send by regular mail an additional notice to the owner of the property, at the address stated in the preceding subdivision, stating the date on which the city may commence corrective action to abate the drug blight on the property, which date shall be no earlier than fifteen days after the date of mailing of the notice. Such additional notice shall also reasonably describe the corrective action contemplated to be taken by the city. Upon receipt of such notice, the owner shall have a right, upon reasonable notice to the city, to seek equitable relief, and the city shall initiate no corrective action while a proper petition for relief is pending before a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) If the city undertakes corrective action with respect to the property after complying with the provisions of subdivision (b) (1), the costs and expenses thereof shall be chargeable to and paid by the owner of such property and may be collected by the city as taxes are collected.

(d) Every charge authorized by this section with which the owner of any such property has been assessed and which remains unpaid shall constitute a lien against such property with the same priority as liens for unpaid local taxes and enforceable in the same manner as provided in Articles 3 (§ 58.1-3940 et seq.) and 4 (§ 58.1-3965 et seq.) of Chapter 39 of Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia.

(e) If the owner of such property takes timely corrective action pursuant to this section, the city shall deem the drug blight abated, shall close the proceeding without any charge or cost to the owner and shall promptly provide written notice to the owner that the proceeding has been terminated satisfactorily. The closing of a proceeding shall not bar the city from initiating a subsequent proceeding if the drug blight recurs.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to abridge or waive any rights or remedies of an owner of property at law or in equity.

**Sec. 11-5. Derelict Buildings.**

(a) Definitions:

“Derelict building” shall mean a residential or nonresidential building or structure, whether or not construction has been completed, that might endanger the public's health, safety, or welfare and for a continuous period in excess of six months, it has been:

(i) vacant

(ii) boarded up in accordance with the building code, and

(iii) not lawfully connected to electric service from a utility service provider or not lawfully connected to any required water or sewer service from a utility service provider.

The “Building official” shall mean the person designated by the City Manager to enforce the provisions of this section.

(b) If a building qualifies as a derelict building pursuant to this section, the Building official shall notify the owner of the derelict building that the owner is required to submit to the city a plan, within 90 days, to

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demolish or renovate the building to address the items that endanger the public's health, safety, or welfare as listed in a written notification provided by the city. Such plan shall be on the form developed by the Building official, and shall include a proposed time within which the plan will be commenced and completed. The plan may include one or more adjacent properties of the owner, whether or not all of such properties may have been declared derelict buildings. The plan shall be subject to approval by the Building official. The Building official shall deliver the written notice to the address listed on the real estate tax assessment records of the city. Written notice sent by first-class mail, with a U.S. Postal Service Certificate of Mailing shall constitute delivery pursuant to this section.

(c) If the Building official delivers written notice and the owner of the derelict building has not submitted a plan within 90 days as provided in subdivision (b), the Building official may exercise such remedies as provided in this section or as otherwise provided by law.

(d) The owner of a building may apply to the Building official and request that such building be declared a derelict building for purposes of this section.

(e) The Building official, upon receipt of the plan to demolish or renovate the building, at the owner's request, shall meet with the owner submitting the plan and provide information to the owner on the land use and permitting requirements for demolition or renovation.

(f) If the property owner's plan is to demolish the derelict building, the building permit application of such owner shall be expedited. If the owner has completed the demolition within 90 days of the date of the building permit issuance, the city shall refund any building and demolition permit fees. This section shall not supersede any ordinance adopted pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-2306 relative to historic districts.

(g) If the property owner's plan is to renovate the derelict building, and no rezoning is required for the owner's intended use of the property, the site plan or subdivision application and the building permit, as applicable, shall be expedited. The site plan or subdivision fees may be refunded, all or in part, but in no event shall the site plan or subdivision fees exceed the lesser of 50 percent of the standard fees established by the ordinance for site plan or subdivision applications for the proposed use of the property, or \$5,000 per property. The building permit fees may be refunded, all or in part, but in no event shall the building permit fees exceed the lesser of 50 percent of the standard fees established by the ordinance for building permit applications for the proposed use of the property, or \$5,000 per property.

(h) Prior to commencement of a plan to demolish or renovate the derelict building, at the request of the property owner, the real estate assessor shall make an assessment of the property in its current derelict condition. On the building permit application, the owner shall declare the costs of demolition, or the costs of materials and labor to complete the renovation. At the request of the property owner, after demolition or renovation of the derelict building, the real estate assessor shall reflect the fair market value of the demolition costs or the fair market value of the renovation improvements, and reflect such value in the real estate tax assessment records. The real estate tax on an amount equal to the costs of demolition or an amount equal to the increase in the fair market value of the renovations shall be abated for a period of not less than 15 years, and is transferable with the property. The abatement of taxes for demolition shall not apply if the structure demolished is a registered Virginia landmark or is determined by the Department of Historic Resources to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Building official may proceed to make repairs and secure the building under Va. Code § 15.2-906, or the Building official may proceed to abate or remove a nuisance under Va. Code § 15.2-900. In addition, the city may exercise such remedies as may exist under the Uniform Statewide Building Code and may exercise such other remedies available under general and special law.

**Secs. 11-46--11-15. Reserved.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-21**

**AN ORDINANCE MOVING THE CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER, CONTINGENT UPON OBTAINING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF HOPEWELL, VIRGINIA FROM THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND PRECLEARANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**WHEREAS**, under its current Charter granted to it by the Virginia General Assembly, the City Council elections are held in May; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Code § 24.2-222.1 allows for the City to provide, by ordinance, that City Council elections be held at the November General Election, for terms to commence January 1; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-202, to consider whether to request an amendment to the City Charter from the Virginia General Assembly to move the City Council elections from May to November, beginning with the election of November, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, after having heard public comment and considered the matter, it appears that moving the City Council elections from May to November will save money and increase voter turnout.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, that the City seek amendments to its Charter from the Virginia General Assembly and preclearance from the United States Department of Justice, to move the City Council elections from May to November, beginning with the election of November, 2012, and to extend the terms of the City Councilpersons set to expire on June 30, 2012 until December 31, 2012, substantially as follows:

**CHAPTER III. ELECTIONS**

**Sec. 1. Election of councilmen; number, time of holding election, etc.**

The city shall be divided into seven election wards, with the qualified voters of the city who are residents of each ward electing one councilman to represent their respective ward. Elections and terms of the councilmen in each of the seven wards of the city shall be as follows:

(a) Beginning with the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 2012, the qualified voters of the city who are residents of Wards 4, 5 and 6 shall elect one councilman per ward to represent their respective wards for a four-year term, with subsequent elections to be held every four years thereafter;

(b) Beginning with the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 2014, the qualified voters of the city who are residents of Wards 1, 2, 3 and 7 shall elect one councilman per ward to represent their respective wards for a four-year term, with subsequent elections to be held every four years thereafter;

**Sec. 2. Terms of councilmen.**

The terms of the councilmen so elected shall be for a period of four years, beginning on the first day of January next following their election, and ending midnight, December 31<sup>st</sup>, four years later, or until his or their successor or successors shall have been elected or appointed and qualified.

## CHAPTER IV. COUNCIL

### **Sec. 4. Election and terms of president (ex officio mayor), vice-president (ex officio vice-mayor) and members of boards and commissions; quorum; journal; etc.**

(a) On the first Tuesday in January next following the regular municipal election, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, the newly elected council shall proceed to choose by majority vote of all the members thereof one of their number to be president, who shall be ex officio mayor, and another as vice-president, who shall be ex officio vice-mayor, of the council, each of whom shall serve for a period of two years from the first day of the January next following the election-and until their successor or successors have been elected and qualified; provided, however, that the terms of the president and vice-president set to expire on June 30, 2012, shall be extended to December 31, 2012, and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

(b) *Appointment of boards and commissions; enumeration, term.* The school board, library board and dock commission shall each consist of five members.

The council shall appoint the members of such boards and commissions as are provided for in this charter, or as may be established by the council or by general law on a date and for such terms as may be established by ordinance.

The members of the boards and commissions shall serve until their successors have been appointed and qualified.

(c) *Elections to be by viva voce vote; rules of procedure; punishment of members for misconduct, etc.; quorum; eligibility of members for other office; journal of proceedings.* All elections by the council shall be viva voce and the vote recorded in the journal of the council.

The council may determine its own rules of procedure; in the absence of established rules of procedure, Roberts "Rules of Order" shall prevail. Council may punish its members for misconduct and may compel the attendance of members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance. It shall keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of all the members of the council shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time.

No person, now a member or who may hereafter be elected to the council, shall during his tenure of office, or during the term for which he was elected as such member, be eligible to any office to be filled by the council by election or appointment.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that contingent upon the aforesaid amendments to the City Charter being granted by the Virginia General Assembly and preclearance for the change in election dates having been received from the Department of Justice, the following amendments to the Hopewell City Code also be enacted:

## **ARTICLE II. CITY COUNCIL**

### **Sec. 2-25. Election and terms of members.**

(a) Beginning with the elections held in November, 2012 the qualified voters of the city who are residents of Wards 4, 5 and 6 shall elect one (1) councilman per ward to represent their respective wards for a four-year term, with subsequent elections to be held every four (4) years thereafter;.

(b) Beginning with the election held in November, 2014, the qualified voters of the city who are residents of Wards 1, 2, 3 and 7 shall elect one (1) councilman per ward to represent their respective wards for a four-year term, with subsequent elections to be held every four (4) years thereafter;.

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(c) The terms of councilmen which were scheduled to expire on June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2014 shall extend until December 31 of 2012 and 2014, respectively.

**Sec. 2-26. Inaugural meetings; regular meetings.**

On the first Tuesday in ~~July~~ January next following the regular municipal election, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, the council shall meet at the usual place for the holding of its meetings for the purpose of organizing for the ensuing term. Thereafter, the council shall meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each and every month; provided, however, that the council may from time to time continue, adjourn or suspend any of such semimonthly meetings, but shall in no case hold less than one regular meeting per month.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that attested copies of this ordinance be sent to the appropriate parties in the Virginia General Assembly and United States Department of Justice for consideration and approval.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF THE CITY OF HOPEWELL, VIRGINIA, WHEREBY THE TERM “COUNCILMEN” SHALL BE REPLACED WITH THE WORD “COUNCILOR” OR THE WORD “COUNCIL PERSON” AND TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF THE CITY OF HOPEWELL, WHEREBY THE WORD “WARD” SHALL BE REPLACED WITH THE WORD “DISTRICT”**

This was the night advertised as a Public Hearing to receive citizen comments regarding a Proposed Charter amendment to the Code of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, whereby the term “councilmen” shall be replaced with the word “councilor” or the word “council person” and to receive public comments regarding a proposed Charter amendment to the Code of the City of Hopewell, whereby the word “ward” shall be replaced with the word “district.”

At the City Council meeting on August 10, 2010, there was a motion to approve the request that the Virginia General Assembly amend the Charter of the City of Hopewell to move City Council elections from May to November, beginning in November 2012 and to extend the terms of the Council members which are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2012 to December 31, 2012. Councilor Brenda S. Pelham amended the motion to change the wording from “ward” to “district” wherever it appears.

At a previous Council meeting there was discussion of holding a public hearing regarding a proposed Charter amendment to the Hopewell City Code, Chapter III. Elections, and Article II. City Council. In addition to those proposed amendments, Councilor Pelham requested consideration of changing “councilman” or “councilmen” to “councilperson” or “councilor” wherever it appears within the Code, and elsewhere.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 8:42 PM.

Debbie Randolph, 400 Cedar Lane, Hopewell, addressed Council regarding changing “ward” to “district.” First, she raised a concern about any costs that may be involved. Her second concern was if the word change is approved will it then be referred to as “first district” or “district 1.”

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was closed at 8:44 PM.

Motion was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Councilor Stokes, to postpone the issue for further discussion, especially about cost.

DISCUSSION: A request was made for the City Manager to Pam Clark, Registrar, to get more definite figures regarding costs to change from “ward” to “district.” Her previous correspondence gave estimates, not actual costs. The City Attorney has attempted to contact the Department of Justice and their first answer was maybe. He has not heard back from them as yet; he will send a letter. The City Manager indicated that there is no money in the budget

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to pay for anything extra. Some Councilors felt that this is something that is not necessary right now. If there are costs, most of Council probably feels that this is not appropriate at this time. The City has already incurred expenses with the cost of advertising the public hearing. There may be other costs involved besides the Registrar.

Councilor Harris withdrew his motion, and Councilor Stokes withdrew his second to the motion.

No action was taken.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS**

**Debbie Randolph**, 400 Cedar Lane, Hopewell, asked for community support with the Box Tops for Education Program. Local schools can earn cash for box tops. The program is for first through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Currently Hopewell's three elementary schools and the middle school are registered participants. Thus far, \$500 or less has been collected. Each school can collect and then receive a maximum of \$20,000 per year. The program disburses twice yearly, in October and April; it is too late for October but she is aiming for April. She is urging churches, civic organizations and businesses throughout the city to participate. Whatever the community collects will be divided among the four schools. Interested parties may contact Ms. Randolph at 926-6948.

There being no other speakers, Communications from Citizens were closed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – PLAQUE RECOGNIZING BRENDA HARRUP AS THE FOUNDER OF HERITAGE GARDENS**

At the City Council meeting held on July 13, 2010, a Citizen/Councilor Request was on the agenda regarding a plaque recognizing Brenda Harrup as the Founder of Heritage Gardens. The members of the Nathaniel Cawsey Garden Club of Hopewell, Prince George and Petersburg requested approval from the City Council to place an 8" x 10" bronze plaque at the entrance to Heritage Gardens. The plaque would recognize Brenda Harrup and the work she has done over the years, to beautify that corner of Hopewell. The wording would read: "*Heritage Gardens Foundation, Established in 1993 by Brenda Harrup on the former site of the City Point Inn.*" The Nathaniel Cawsey Garden Club is prepared to purchase said plaque and the mounting at their expense, but requested the City of Hopewell to properly install it. The 24" bronze stake does have a horizontal bar which would require a bag of cement to anchor it, preventing theft. Council postponed approval on July 13, until further discussion at its Work Session on July 20, 2010.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Councilor Pelham, to resolve to approve and file. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**CITIZEN/COUNCILOR REQUEST – COUNCILOR BUJAKOWSKI – DISCUSSION OF WAYS TO INCREASE CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT**

Councilor Bujakowski is looking for ideas from City Council and Hopewell citizens on how Council can better communicate with the community. He urged residents to get involved by volunteering to serve on the City's boards and commissions; there are not enough people currently willing to serve. He would like to have banners rotated throughout the city announcing city functions and activities. The city has a new blog, and may have a new newsletter for only Council, to communicate with citizens, unlike the current newsletter shared with schools. Anyone with ideas should contact the City Clerk. Some Councilors were interested in the feasibility and the cost of more frequent newsletters, and the City Manager was asked to research and report back to Council. Computers are

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not only the future, but the present, and social media is a big part of that. Perhaps Council should consider e-newsletters. There was also mention, again, of a coordinated city-wide calendar. Council should have regularly scheduled Ward meetings. The FCC supports local media, radio and television stations, to give one-half to one minute to broadcast public service announcements for local governments. Mr. Bragg participates in media broadcast. The last City-wide Neighborhood Watch meeting was poorly attended. It needs participation and input from citizens. Council needs an avenue to get in touch with citizens. Issues within the next six months will require more volunteers. Churches, civic organizations, etc., were encouraged to help.

**CITIZEN/COUNCILOR REQUEST – MAYOR LUMAN-BAILEY – PRESENTATION OF EXCERPTS FROM THE MINDS IN MOTION PROGRAM “SAVE THE BAY,” INCLUDING HOPEWELL’S THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (DUPONT, HARRY E. JAMES AND PATRICK COPELAND)**

Mayor Luman-Bailey presented a 15-minute program on Minds in Motions, Save the Bay. Students from Hopewell’s three elementary school participated in the performing arts presentation. The Team XXL will perform at this year’s Hooray for Hopewell.

**REGULAR BUSINESS – VML ANNUAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 5, 2010 – CERTIFICATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR BUSINESS MEETING; AND, DESIGNATE NLC DELEGATE, DECEMBER 4, 2010 - COUNCILOR BRENDA S. PELHAM**

The Annual Business Meeting at the Virginia Municipal League Annual Conference is in Hampton, Virginia, on October 5, 2010. According to Article IV, Section 6 of the League Constitution the mayor shall be deemed to be its official representative, and in lieu of the mayor, another. Designation must be in writing filed with the Executive Director or such other person acting as Secretary of the meeting prior to any vote. Each locality is entitled to one vote at the business meeting. Voting may not be by proxy.

The National League of Cities Annual Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2010, at the conclusion of the Congress of Cities and Exposition. As a direct member city, Hopewell is entitled to one vote at that meeting, based on population. Voting by proxy is prohibited. The voting delegate must pick up the city’s voting card at the Credentials Booth before the Annual Business Meeting and must be present to cast the city’s vote.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Councilor Stokes, to resolve to designate Mayor Christina J. Luman-Bailey as Voting Delegate, and Vice Mayor Wayne Walton as Alternate Voting Delegate for the Business Meeting at the VML Annual Conference, October 5, 2010, and to designate Councilor Brenda S. Pelham as Voting Delegate at the NLC Conference on December 4, 2010. The motion was unanimously passed.

**REGULAR BUSINESS – CITY MANAGER – PAY PLAN**

City Manager Daley explained that when the FY 2010/2011 Budget was passed there were some cosmetic errors in the pay plan. The purpose of taking action on this at this time is to clean that up with the addition of points. The cost for the entire pay plan is \$20,000; without the point steps it would have cost \$175,000.

Motion was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Councilor Pelham, to approve the correction to the Pay Plan adopted with the FY 2010/2011 Budget, retroactive to July 1, 2010. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**REGULAR BUSINESS – PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT AND COMMUNITY POLICING – CHIEF MARTIN**

Police Chief Steve Martin presented the Police Department's Annual Report (filed in the City Clerk's Office). The report will soon be available on the city's website. The report provides an accounting of 2009 resources provided through funding. The city is divided into east and west sectors under Lieutenants. The sectors are further divided into zones under Sergeants. The zones are divided into 20 neighborhoods. Odd numbers are in the west sectors and even numbers are in the east sectors. The smallest areas are beats, patrolled by police officers.

**REGULAR BUSINESS – RESOLUTION – CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – COMPLIANCE WITH UDA DESIGNATION**

The Virginia General Assembly amended and reenacted § 15.2-2223.I of the Code of Virginia, relating to urban development areas during the 2010 General Assembly session. Effective July 1, 2010, localities are required to forward documents describing all urban development area (UDA) designations to the Commission on Local Government (CLG), and the CLG will report annually to the Governor and General Assembly on localities' overall compliance with the UDA designation requirement.

The City was required to complete a survey and submit it to the CLG, and then submit all documents describing UDA designations – including densities achieved within each such area – as well as any resolution adopted certifying compliance, together with associated written policies, zoning provisions and other ordinances, and the capital improvement program to the CLG within 90 days of its adoption or amendment.

The City Administration and City Attorney's Office has reviewed the requirements of § 15.2-2223.I, and has determined that the City's current Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance, and existing land use provide for the development densities required by § 16.2-2223.I. Therefore, it has been determined that the City complies with § 15.2-2223.I, and as such is required to pass the resolution stating its compliance.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Vice Mayor Walton, to resolve to adopt a resolution stating that Hopewell has complied with the requirements of § 15.2-2223.I of the Code of Virginia, related to the designation of urban development. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**RESOLUTION**  
**URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREA DESIGNATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia General Assembly amended and reenacted § 15.2-2223.I of the Code of Virginia, relating to urban development areas; and

**WHEREAS**, § 15.2-2223.1 of the Code of Virginia defines an urban development area as "an area designated by a locality that is (i) appropriate for higher density development due to its proximity to transportation facilities, the availability of a public or community water and sewer system, or a developed area and (ii) to the extent feasible, to be used for redevelopment or infill development;" and

**WHEREAS**, § 15.2-2223.1 of the Code of Virginia requires every locality that has adopted zoning pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 22 of Title 15.2 and has a population of at least 20,000 and population growth of at least 5% or

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15% or more, shall, and any locality may amend its comprehensive plan to incorporate one or more urban development areas; and

**WHEREAS**, § 16.2-2223.1 of the Code of Virginia further requires that the comprehensive plan for a locality having a population of less than 130,000 persons shall provide for urban development areas that are appropriate for development at a density on developable acreage of at least four single-family residences, six townhouses, or 12 apartments, condominium units, or cooperative units per acre, and an authorized floor area ratio of at least 0.4 per acre for commercial development, or proportional combination thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, § 15.2-2223.1 of the Code of Virginia still further requires that any locality that would be required to amend its plan pursuant to § 16.2223.1 (B) that determines that its plan accommodates growth in a manner consistent with § 15.2-2223.1 (B), upon adoption of a resolution describing such accommodation and describing any financial and other incentives for development in the area that accommodate such growth, shall not be required to further amend its comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hopewell has experienced a -3.23% difference in population from the next-to-latest to the latest decennial census year, based on population reported by the United States Bureau of the Census; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hopewell has further determined that after a review of its comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance that the provisions of those documents permit the development of the developable property consistent with requirements of § 15.2-2223.1 (B) 1 of the Code of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hopewell provides a partial tax abatement for the rehabilitation, renovation, or replacement of residential and commercial structures as an incentive for the revitalization and redevelopment of the City's urban areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Hopewell that its comprehensive plan accommodates growth in a manner consistent with the requirements of § 15.2-2223.1 of the Code of Virginia, and shall not be required to further amend its comprehensive plan.

Dated: September 14, 2010

/s/ Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Mayor

ATTEST: Ann M. Romano, Clerk of Council

**REGULAR BUSINESS – STREET NAME CHANGE – MADISON STREET TO PACE STREET**

In October 2008, a citizen requested City Council rename a street within the City. In October 2009, City Council formed a committee to assist staff with developing procedures and a guideline process for renaming streets within the City. City Council approved the recommended guidelines during the May 11, 2010 meeting. Mr. T aylor requested that Madison Street be renamed Pace Street.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to resolve to rename Madison Street to Pace Street in the City of Hopewell. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**WAIVE THE RULES**

Motion was made by Councilor Bujakowski, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to Waive Council's Rules and Procedures to allow public comments regarding the Deer Hunting Ordinance, Urban Archery. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**REGULAR BUSINESS – DEER HUNTING ORDINANCE – URBAN ARCHERY**

Dr. Daley explained Urban Archery and that it is for bows and arrows only. Urban Archery allows deer hunting within certain areas, and within certain guidelines, within the City of Hopewell. The City wishes to participate in the State Archery Program from October 1 thru December 31. If successful, it will apply for the State Urban Archery Program in 2011.

Hopewell City Code

Chapter 27 WEAPONS

Sec. 37-9. Urban Archery.

(a) Hunting with bow and arrow is permitted on any city-owned real property designated by the City Manager, or his designee, as an "archery area," and/or on any private property containing at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an acre of land, with written permission from the owners of the property, which written permission shall be carried by the hunter while hunting on said property. Hunting will be permitted during any hunting seasons declared by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, including any early, late, or special urban archery season.

(b) Any person desiring to hunt on any city-owned property must obtain a permit from the Hopewell Police Department, in addition to any hunting license required by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The permit must be obtained under those terms and conditions that the Hopewell Police Department may impose or establish including, but not limited to, a proficiency test in the use of a bow and arrow.

(c) The owner of any private property of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre who intends to permit hunting on said property, shall file a written declaration of such intent with the Hopewell Police Department on an annual basis.

(d) Hunting is prohibited in all areas, and at all other times except as expressly permitted by this section.

(e) It is unlawful to hunt except from a stand elevated at least ten (10) feet from the ground.

(f) It is unlawful to hunt within thirty (30) yards of a dwelling, sidewalk, street, alley, or roadway. Violation of this subsection is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

(g) No person shall hunt or traverse an area with a bow and arrow that is within one hundred (100) yards of the property line of a public school or a city park except in those areas specifically designated as archery areas. Violation of this subsection is a Class 4 misdemeanor.

(h) A hunter shall obtain permission to pursue a wounded deer upon the land of neighboring landowners.

(i) No person shall hunt deer within the city limits by use of a dog or dogs.

(j) Any person hunting must comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

(k) The discharge of a bow and arrow within city limits is permitted by hunters hunting in compliance with all of the terms of this section.

(l) Except as designated otherwise, any violation of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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**John Hunter**, 213 N. 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hopewell, and an employee of the City of Hopewell, commented that the deer habitats were destroyed due to the building expansion at Ft. Lee. There is an increased deer population in Hopewell, and increased vehicle/deer accidents. The Police Department used to see one deer accident per year; last year there were a least six during daylight hours. If a deer is hit by a car, the police officer must shoot it and dispose of it humanely. With the proposed program they would not destroy all the deer. Most accidents are with smaller deer. Injury could occur with larger deer.

**Judy Blevins**, 424 Cobblestone Drive, Hopewell, discussed deer damage to everything growing in the area. It is at the point that deer are eating any plants and shrubs. She wants something done. Ms. Blevins has seen as many as 13 deer crossing the roads. The deer leave droppings on personal yards; they are there year round. She requested that something be done to control the deer problem.

**Curtis Butterworth**, 3504 N. Colonial Drive, Hopewell, lives across the street from the woods. He asked what the mechanism was allowing hunting on City property. He also asked whether or not there is a limit to how many hunters can be allowed on personal property. (*According to the ordinance there is no limit.*)

**DISCUSSION:** A cross bow will not stop a deer unless it hits a big deer. There was concern for the safety, and security issues at the Regional Wastewater Treatment location. Three quarters of an acre is not much. Ward 4 probably has more deer than any other ward, and the deer are getting aggressive. Shooting is only permitted from an elevated platform 10 feet high. The City must be particular about who gets a permit. The City Manager will talk to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries about whether or not signage alerting citizens about hunting on certain property.

**Marion Hebert**, 711 Mansion Drive, Hopewell, was interested in where the stands will be placed. If a deer is only injured she is concerned that it will run into her yard. She often has 10 deer in her yard. She is concerned about maybe creating a hazardous situation that we do not want in the end. She does not want a deer bleeding in her yard.

**Debbie Randolph**, 400 Cedar Lane, Hopewell, shared that her husband is employed by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Urban Archery could present a potential for problems. Not only does may be hunted but antler-less deer. Hunters must get a City permit. The property owner allows hunters on their property. Initially there may be licensed bow hunters. Some people were allowed to voice their opinions, but this was not a public hearing.

Dr. Daley emphasized that there is only a 90-day window for the deer hunting in the city. If Council or citizens are not pleased with it, Council will turn down the full program. This is a trial period. The City will be responsible to monitor that hunters follow the guidelines. The Police Department would be called with any questions.

**DISCUSSION:** There was concern about investment. Some localities require three full acres; Hopewell will allow  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an acre. There are more questions than Council can deal with. It is limited to three months, October thru December. The City Manager will report to Council in January or February, 2011.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Stokes, and seconded by Councilor Pelham, to approve Ordinance No. 2010-23 on first and only reading as presented as an emergency measure, amending Hopewell City Code, Chapter 37, Weapons. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	NO
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**REGULAR BUSINESS – NOISE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

An ordinance repealing Chapter 23 of the Code of the City of Hopewell and reenacting Chapter 23, NOISE. Ordinance No. 2010-22 will amend the City of Hopewell's Noise Ordinance, to include in Section 23-3. Definitions, (a) *A-weighted decibel*. The sound level, in decibels, measured with a sound level meter using the A-weighting network or scale as specified in the NASI S1.4-1983 (specification for sound level meters).

At the City Council work session held on August 24, 2010, City Attorney Tom Lacheney prepared amendments to the Noise Ordinance, after conducting additional research on decibel meters. The City plans to purchase at least one meter and qualify several police officers to use them. Meters will allow police officers to measure noise levels, from the property line, after a complaint is made. If the noise level proves to exceed the maximum allowable meter reading, the officer may then enter the property to issue the summons. The decibel section was added to the ordinance, which is enforceable 24/7 anywhere in the City of Hopewell. Language was added to Section 23.-9 (d) to issue a permit. It will affect churches and other activities in the City at any time. On April 11, 2010 the Senate and House passed HB563 making legislation for equipment to measure the sound.

**Motion** was made by Vice Mayor Walton, and seconded by Councilor Bujakowski, to approve Ordinance No. 2010-22, on first reading, repealing Chapter 23 of the Code of the City of Hopewell and reenacting Chapter 23, NOISE.

**DISCUSSION:** The level of noise after 11:00 PM is measured by the distance (50 feet). The decibel meter will measure noise from the property line. Noise above 60.2 would have to be turned down. The meter is the only thing the Police Department has to accurately measure the level of noise.

Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

**REGULAR BUSINESS – SEPTEMBER 28, 2010 WORK SESSION PRE-DRAFT AGENDA**

The Pre-Draft Agenda for the work session scheduled for September 28, 2010, will begin at 5:00 PM with discussion regarding the PPEA Agreement for the Hopewell City Marina, and adjourn at 6:15 PM. At 6:30 PM City Council will meet with the Hopewell Manufacturing Association at Jordan Point Country Club.

In addition a Work Session was scheduled for September 21, 2010, at 6:30 PM to discuss the City's Financial Plan, and priorities. Amendments, in the amount of \$900,000-\$1,000,000, must be made to this year's budget. Code Enforcement is moving into the Municipal Building under the Department of Development. That will eliminate the Director of Zoning and Inspections position approved earlier this year. That position will be removed from the budget. The City Manager will also eliminate any vacant positions.

**REGULAR BUSINESS – APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Motion** was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to appoint and/or reappoint the following City Council members: Crater Planning District Commission-Vice Mayor Walton; Historic Preservation Committee-Councilor Stokes, Mayor Luman-Bailey, and Councilor Bujakowski; Non-Attainment Planning Organization, VDEQ, Richmond Ozone Nonattainment Area-Councilor Harris and Councilor Shornak; Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council of the South Centre Corridors-Councilor Pelham; Sesquicentennial Committee, thru 11/30/15-Councilor Bujakowski, Councilor Stokes and Councilor Pelham; Virginia First Cities Coalition-Councilor Bujakowski; Virginia's Gateway Region, 10/1/10-9/30/11-Mayor Luman-

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Bailey; **CDBG Committee-Councilor Harris, Councilor Pelham and Councilor Shornak**; Chamber of Commerce Liaison-Vice Mayor Walton; Investment Policy Committee-Mayor Luman-Bailey; Law Library Committee-Councilor Stokes; Legislative Committee-Councilor Shornak, Councilor Harris and Mayor Luman-Bailey; Metro Richmond Air Quality Committee-Councilor Bujakowski and Councilor Shornak; National Park Service Waterfront Committee-Mayor Luman-Bailey and Vice Mayor Walton; Schools Facilities Committee-Councilor Harris and Councilor Pelham; Technology Fund Committee-Councilor Stokes; and Telecommunication Regulation Committee-Councilor Bujakowski. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Walton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Shornak	-	yes
Mayor Luman- Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Bujakowski	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes

Mayor Luman-Bailey announced the current vacancies: Board of Building Code and Fire Prevention Code Appeals, one vacancy, term thru 10/31/15; NWAC-Ward #1, term thru 10/31/12, Ward #5, term thru 10/31/11; and Recreation Commission, one vacancy, term thru 10/31/14.

Mayor Luman-Bailey announced the following current term expirations: Architectural Review Board, two terms to 10/31/14; Board of Building Code and Fire Prevention Code Appeals, two terms to 10/31/15; BZA, one term to 10/31/15; Clean City Commission, three terms to 10/31/14; Disability Services Board, one term to 12/31/13; Dock Commission, one term to 10/31/14; HRHA, two terms to 10/31/14; Industrial Development Authority, two terms to 10/31/14; Library Board two terms to 10/31/14; Neighborhood Watch Advisory Council, Wards #1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, terms to 10/31/12; Planning Commission/Wetlands Board, two terms to 10/31/14; Recreation Commission, two terms to 10/31/14; Regional Wastewater Treatment Commission, two terms to 10/31/12; Senior Citizens Advisory Commission; six terms to 10/31/12; Social Services Advisory Board, two terms to 10/31/14; Transportation Safety Board, two terms to 10/31/14; and Virginia's Gateway Region, one term to 12/31/11. Appointments will be considered at the October 12, 2010 Council meeting.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Vice Mayor Walton reported from the Chamber of Commerce announcing a 5K Race; sponsorship is \$1,000. The (summer) Jobs Program for students was successful, with 45 participants. A \$15,000 grant was awarded for the same program next year. Soon there will be a film of the areas for the H/PG Chamber's home page. The HCIP has become a member.

Vice Mayor Walton reported on the CPDC – Ft. Lee rail transport for soldiers to Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. The Alcohol Beverage Control Board may become private. There was discussion about what would happen with the Machinery & Tools Tax. The Chamber of Commerce encourages citizens to let our delegates know how you feel.

### **REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Councilor Harris announced a Ward #2 meeting on Monday, September 20, 2010, at 7:00 PM at Carter G. Woodson Middle School, 1000 Winston Churchill Drive. Handouts were made available. He is inviting citizens, civic leaders, religious leaders, business leaders, education leaders, political leaders, and others. He reported a scare in Hopewell on September 8 at the ethanol plant. There was an explosion and fire. The media has not been able to deal with this matter because they have not gotten all of the information. He reported an underground pipe explosion in California that caused damage, injury, and death. Because the City has not dealt with this matter, citizens are still concerned about it. The ward meeting will give a chance for people in Ward #2 and everyone else to discuss and ask questions about the incident in Hopewell. He wants to prevent any danger in our city. He invited the City Manager, Fire Chief, and Police Chief to attend.

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Councilor Bujakowski reported that in April there was a movement to catch the spirit of Hopewell. This weekend is the Hooray for Hopewell. He also announced a HHS Blue Devils football game on Friday night, September 17. He encouraged everyone to attend the game and Hooray.

Councilor Shornak attended the Autumn Woods Neighborhood Watch meeting. She urged people to join their local Neighborhood Watch program in each area; it is a great opportunity for more people to get involved.

Councilor Stokes thanked everyone for the get well cards and well wishes after his surgery and he was happy to be back.

Councilor Pelham thanked everyone who voted on the TV series event in Petersburg. Actor Blair Underwood, a Petersburg native, will star in that series. On Monday, September 20, at 6:00 PM, there will be a meeting for the Precision Drill Team that Councilor Pelham founded 20 years ago. It is about to be revitalized, headed by Naketa Ellis. Anyone interested may attend. The Neighborhood Watch on Freeman Street will be held on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Elks Club; the Kings Court Neighborhood Watch will meet at 7:00 PM at the same location. On the first Thursday of the month, the Greater Heights Neighborhood Watch, headed by Pastor Mavin, will meet at the United House of Prayer. Now that school has been opened, HHS is doing well at the start of the year.

Vice Mayor Walton reported the United Way Campaign Kickoff coming up. March Altman is the Chairman for the City of Hopewell employees. There will be a golf tournament on October 22, 2010. Hooray for Hopewell is this weekend. There will be a kayak event coming from Petersburg on Saturday. There has been a request for a pier to be filmed in a movie. Vice Mayor Walton feels that Hopewell can be a great city of we work together.

Mayor Luman-Bailey announced the Employee Luncheon on Wednesday, September 15, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, and 1:00-2:30 PM, at Crystal Lake. On Thursday, September 16, at 7:00 PM there will be a presentation At the Library about the Tubize Strike. Since there is no longer an official Hooray for Hopewell activity on Friday evening, there will be an outdoor movie at sundown. The movie is "An American Tail." On Saturday there will be a paddling event coordinated with FOLAR. Team XXL will perform at Hooray for Hopewell on Saturday. The Hopewell/Prince George Crime Solvers will sponsor a barbeque on October 6 at 7:00 PM in Prince George. The Hopewell Citizens Academy will be held on January 13, 2011 thru June 23, 2011. It is a free course held every other Thursday, 6:30-8:30 PM, the location to be rotated by department.

**ADJOURN**

At 9:57 PM **motion** was made and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting.

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Christina J. Luman-Bailey  
Mayor

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Ann M. Romano, City Clerk